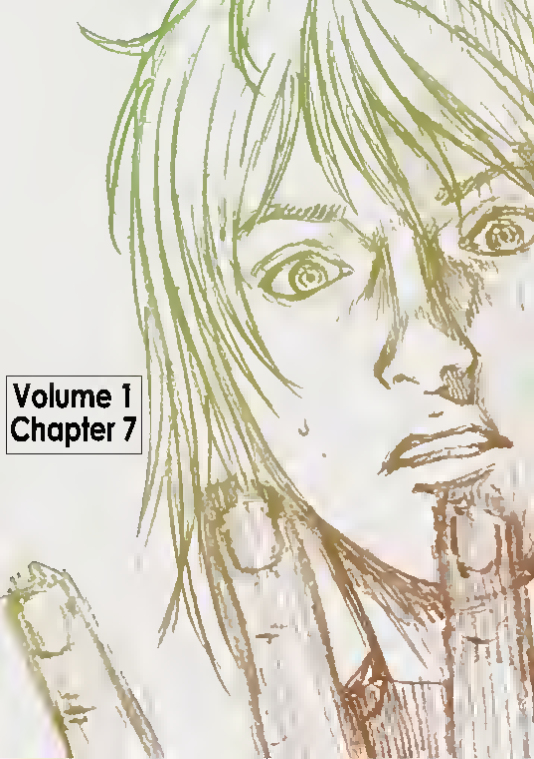

Volume 1
Chapter 7

SFX: CRACKLE CRACKLE
APPLYING WHAT I'VE LEARNED FROM MAKING BONFIRES TO WIELDING A SPEAR...
FIRES ARE GREAT. WATCHING THEM BURN IS RELAXING AND TAKES YOUR MIND OFF THINGS...
IT MAKES YOU WANT TO WATCH AS LONG AS POSSIBLE...
BUT IN ORDER TO DO THAT, YOU GOT TO MAKE SURE YOU DON'T WASTE ANY FIREWOOD
THE FIRST TIME I MADE A BONFIRE, I COULDN'T CONTROL IT AND SPARKS STARTED FLYING ALL OVER THE PLACE...
HEH...
SFX: FLICK

WHAT I HAVE LEARNED FROM MAKING BON-FIRES... HUH...
THEN, THE FIRE GOT TOO BIG AND SPREAD TO SOME LEAVES AROUND THE FIREPLACE... I REMEMBER HOW THE VILLAGERS GOT PISSED AT ME...
IN OTHER WORDS, WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS TO CONTROL THE STRENGTH OF THE FIRE...
OR THAT YOU DON'T NEED MUCH FIREWOOD TO BOIL A POT OF WATER...
WELL, THAT, FOR INSTANCE, IF YOU WANT TO WARM YOURSELF YOU DON'T WANT TO MAKE A HUGE BONFIRE BECAUSE IT'S HARD TO SIT CLOSE TO IT...
STRENGTH CONTROL...
COULD IT BE THAT I'M SIMPLY APPLYING TOO MUCH UNNECESSARY STRENGTH WHEN I TRY TO PIERCE THE LOG ?
IF THERE'S ANYTHING I COULD APPLY TO WIELDING A SPEAR, IT'S STRENGTH CONTROL...

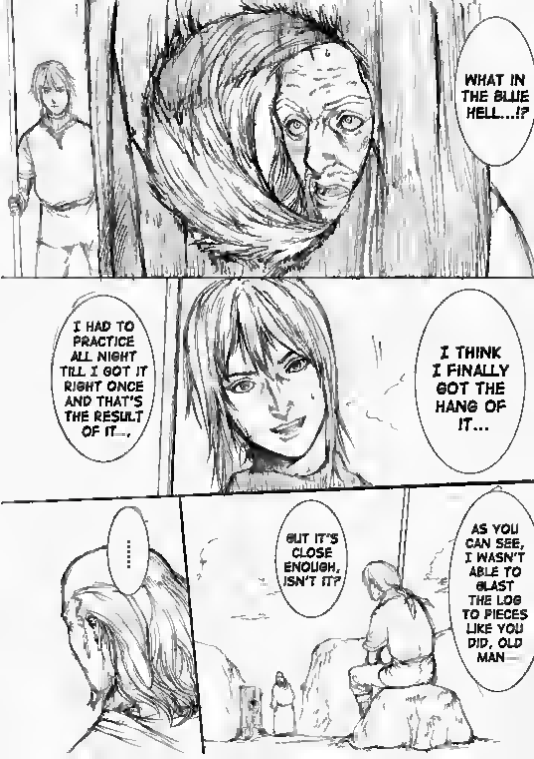
I HAVE TO APPLY JUST THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF STRENGTH...
APPLY TOO MUCH STRENGTH AND THE SPEAR WILL JUST PUSH OFF THE LOG INSTEAD OF PIERCING IT...
APPLY TOO LITTLE AND IT MAY STICK INTO THE LOG, BUT NOT FULLY PENETRATE IT...
AND THEN ...
THINK OF THE SPEAR AS ANOTHER PART OF YOUR BODY AND...
FEEL THE BREATH OF YOUR TARGET...

STRIKE
STRAIGHT
!!

WHAT IS... THIS...?
HUH...?
SPX THWACK

SFX: FSSHHH...
SFX: CRACK
GAH!!
SFX: THUD
SFX: SHAKE SHAKE
WHAT WAS... THAT FEEL-ING..?

IT WENT IN WITHOUT ANY RESISTANCE LIKE A HOT KNIFE THROUGH BUTTER...
WHEN THE SPEAR HIT THE LOG'S SURFACE...
IT FELT MORE LIKE I PIERCED IT WITH MY BARE HANDS!!
WHAT'S MORE, EVEN THOUGH I PIERCED THE LOG WITH THE SPEAR...
WHA...


WHAT IN THE BLUE HELL...!?
I THINK I FINALLY GOT THE HANG OF IT...
I HAD TO PRACTICE ALL NIGHT TILL I GOT IT RIGHT ONCE AND THAT'S THE RESULT OF IT...
AS YOU CAN SEE, I WASN'T ABLE TO BLAST THE LOG TO PIECES LIKE YOU DID, OLD MAN—
BUT IT'S CLOSE ENOUGH, ISN'T IT?
.....

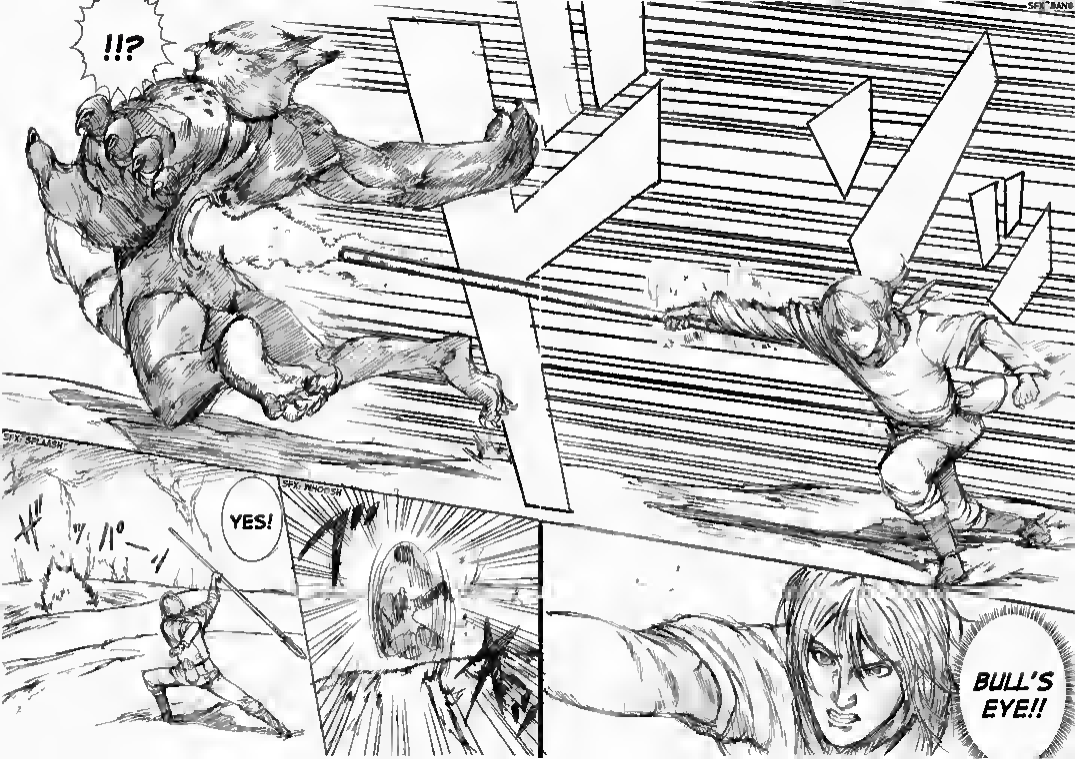
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT... HE MASTERED IT IN SUCH A SHORT TIME.
LOOKS LIKE HE MASTERED THE TECHNIQUE ALMOST BETTER THAN ME DURING MY PRIME
AND LOOK HOW PERFECTLY CLEAN-CUT THE HOLE HE PIERCED IS...!!
LOSE FACE
LOSE FACE
LOSE FACE
OKAY, WELL... I'M A WRINKLED OLD MAN BENT WITH AGE NOW NATURALLY, MY SKILLS GOT A BIT RUSTY.
ON THE CONTRARY, WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT LIKE THAT, I DID PRETTY GOOD FOR SOMEONE MY AGE
OLD MAN IS THINKING...
SFX: MUMBLE MUMBLE
THIS IS ACTUALLY WHAT I WANTED TO SHOW BAKI—
IF I TOLD HIM "THE LOG WASN'T REALLY SUPPOSED TO GET BLOWN TO PIECES" NOW
I'D LOSE FACE..

SFX: FLINCH
OLD MAN, WHAT'S THE MATTER?
SFX: SWEAT SWEAT
LET ME TELL YOU THIS! DON'T YOU GET COCKY BECAUSE YOU GOT IT RIGHT ONCE!!
NOTHING IS THE MATTER!!
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO HIM ALL OF A SUDDEN...
UH... RIGHT
MONSTERS WON'T STAND STILL LIKE LOGS!!
PLUS, IT TAKES TIME TO LAUNCH THE TECHNIQUE... MAKING IT DIFFICULT TO USE!! REMEMBER IT WELL!!
WHOA, IT'S HOT!!
MY SERVING ONLY, THAT IS...
THE SOUP ME HAD FOR DINNER THAT DAY WAS UNUSUALLY SPICY FOR SOME REASON...

OW!!
GO GET 'EM!!
OKAY, I'LL BE OFF THEN!!
.....
WE'LL BE WAITING FOR YOUR CORPSE TO SHOW UP!!
FUGO !!
SFX: THUD THUD THUD
THE OLD MAN, BUBO AND BOGO WERE ALL THERE TO SEE ME OFF AS I HEADED INTO THE CAVE
I'M GONNA EXPLORE EVERY NOOK AND CORNER OF THIS CAVE THIS TIME FOR REAL!

I QUICKLY ADVANCED THROUGH THE CAVE WHILE MAKING SHORT WORK OF WEAKER MONSTERS STANDING IN MY WAY
THE OWL-BEAR
!!
AFTER DESCENDING THE STAIRS, MY NEMESIS SHOWED UP WITHOUT A MOMENT'S DELAY
SFX: SLASH
HOWEVER, I'M NOT THE SAME WEAKLING THAT I WAS LAST TIME

SFX: RWOOSH
SFX: STAB
SFX: LEAP
SFX: THUD
!?


!!?
SFX: BANG
SFX: SPLASH
SFX: WHOOSH
YES!
BULL'S EYE!!

TIME TO CHECK OUT WHAT'S AT THE END OF THIS CAVE
AND THAT'S THAT...
SFX: CRACK
GRR RRRR RRR ...
...

Appendix:

Characters in chapter 7:

Baki

Boat man

Mansters in chapter 7:

Whackamole (Hammerhood)

Owlbear

Lacatians in chapter 7:

- Santa Rasa (Whealbrook)